

State of Iowa Electrical Examining Board Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2022
Approved

Board Members Present

Marg Stoldorf, Chair Person
Tim Gerald, Vice Chair
John Claeys
Dan Wood
Colby Black
Luiza Fritz
Luke Maloney

Board Member Present by Conference Call

Jonathan Gettler

Board Members Not Present

Amanda Cooling
Jeremy Price

Staff Members Present

Brian Young, Executive Secretary
John Lundquist, Assistant Attorney General, Iowa Attorney General's Office
Cindi Hayes, Secretary 2

Public Present

Mike Anderson – City of Davenport Inspector

Public Present by Conference Call

Michael Jennings

CP Stoldorf called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., and asked for an introduction of Board members attending in person and by conference call. CP Stoldorf asked guests in attendance and by conference call to introduce themselves.

CP Stoldorf moved to the first item on the agenda, which was "Approval of the meeting minutes from August 16, 2022", and asked for any corrections; hearing none, a motion to approve was requested. VC Gerald made a **motion** to **accept the minutes as written**. Claeys **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

CP Stoldorf then turned the meeting over to ES Young. The next item on the agenda was "Review licensure request for Michael Jennings". ES Young gave a synopsis regarding Mr. Jennings' request for a Master Class B license and that Mr. Jennings has worked in Iowa without a license for licensed electrical contractors. ES Young then gave Mr. Jennings an opportunity to explain his past work history in Iowa, Minnesota and his license history with the City of Manchester, IA. Discussion ensued.

ES Young stated he would approve a Journeyman Class B license for Mr. Jennings based on his past work history and journeyman license issued by the City of Manchester. The Journeyman B license could then be held for one year and then sponsorship would be approved for Mr. Jennings to sit for the master exam.

Mr. Jennings stated he is not interested in this path to the Master Class A license. After further discussion, CP Stoldorf requested that Mr. Jennings reach out to the City of Manchester to provide proof of a master license and work experience as a master electrician. In addition, ES Young requested Mr. Jennings to reach out to Tim Heims with the City of Manchester, for documentation prior to 1998, regarding the city allowing journeyman electricians to pull permits for electrical work. After discussion and consideration by the Board, CP Stoldorf called for a motion. Claeys made a **motion to table this discussion until the next Board meeting to allow time for Mr. Jennings to gather the information requested**. VC Gerald **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was “Report of the Executive Secretary”. ES Young reviewed the financial report, which was previously provided to the Board for their review, and directed the Board’s attention to revenue and expense items.

The next item on ES Young’s report was the civil penalty letters for electricians working without licenses. Those individuals receiving civil penalty letters were: Gaylen Wignall, Derek Green, Alexander Clark, Martin Salgado-Valtierrez, Daniel Holzhauser, Juan Meza JR, Levi Braem, Cody Doonan, Benjamin Rusher, Samuel Marcsisak, Drake Ehresman, Eric Michael, Shawn Klinkenberg, Jens Berggren, Russell Boore II, Alexander Lee, Alex Sowle, Nicholas Vanderpool, Branyon Dircks, Dustin Welvaert, Tanner Arnold, Garret Stensgard, Brody Blint, Nicholas Christnagel, Nick Carley, Douglas Davis JR, James Lanzourakis, Benjamin Hansen, Matthew Johnson-Walker, Patrick Benesch and Lucas Jensen. Maloney made a **motion to approve the letters**. Black **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

The next item on ES Young’s report was, “Vote on Civil Penalty order for unlicensed practice: Mark Bockenstedt”. ES Young requested he would like the Board to impose a civil penalty to Mr. Bockenstedt, and turned the meeting over to AAG Lundquist. AAG Lundquist stated that IC 103.39(4) authorizes the IEEB to issue a civil penalty against someone who is either working or holding themselves out as a licensed electrical contractor or electrician. The IEEB had previously issued a Notice of Intent to Mr. Bockenstedt in 2022, to impose a \$15,000.00 civil penalty and the right to request a formal hearing within thirty days of the notice being served. To date, there has been no reply to this notice from Mr. Bockenstedt or his attorney. It is AAG Lundquist’s contention, that Mr. Bockenstedt has waived his right to appeal, and the IEEB is allowed to consider issuing the order to impose civil penalty at this meeting. VC Gerald made a **motion to issue the order to impose the civil penalty, as proposed**. Black **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

The next item on ES Young’s report was, “Proposed Master/Electrical Contractor license reciprocity agreement with Nebraska”. ES Young stated he has been working with Nebraska to now allow the Nebraska Contractor license to reciprocate to an Iowa Master Class A license. Iowa master licenses will also reciprocate to a Nebraska contractor license, if all reciprocal and license requirements are met. VC Gerald made a **motion to approve the reciprocal agreement with Nebraska to accept the master/contractor license**. Claeys **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

The next item on ES Young’s report was, “NFPA & 2023 NEC adoption training & review”. ES Young reached out to NFPA and they will not be providing pre-adoption training, as in the past. NFPA will provide post-adoption training to the State and political subdivisions after the State determines if they will be adopting the 2023 NEC. The effective date, per past trends, is the 2023 NEC will be adopted in January 2024. The State will then reach out to communities and political subdivisions regarding this training.

The next item on ES Young's report was, "Discuss expiration date for online continuing education classes". ES Young brought to the Board's attention that the expiration for providing online classes will expire on 12/31/2022. ES Young is looking for direction as to extending the current online continuing education process to a later date. AAG Lundquist stated that the Administrative Rules can be modified to accommodate online instruction as classroom attendance. VC Gerald made a **motion to extend the deadline for online continuing education to December 31, 2025**. Claeys **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

The next item on ES Young's report was, "All licenses expiring on 12/31/2022 and must be renewed prior to 1/1/2023". ES Young stated that approximately 10,000 licenses have been renewed now, and expects about 16,000 total. He also stated that, since the last license renewal 3 years ago, we are seeing about 83% of people renewing online, and 23% are not requesting a laminated paper license to be mailed to them, resulting in less staff labor for processing. ES Young thanked his office staff of 3, Cindi, Dawn and Valorie, for their combined effort in processing license renewals, answering phone calls and emails.

The next item on ES Young's report was, "Waiver Request for Minnesota State Community College (Instructor Approval)". ES Young stated that the college had a turnover and staff had no direction in submitting instructor and course approvals before two classes were held. ES Young has since approved both their instructor and courses going forward. VC Gerald made a **motion to approve the waiver request so that the 2 classes held before formal approval, would be credited to the current license cycle**. Black **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

The next item on ES Young's report was, "Waiver Request for Aaron Fahrer (Retaking Examination-Admin Rule 502.2(13))". Mr. Fahrer requested the Board grant two additional test attempts for the journeyman exam. Mr. Fahrer has completed 12 hours of continuing education prior to 2020, and has waited six months from his last test date. Per the Board's direction, ES Young will reach out to Mr. Fahrer suggesting he take an examination preparation course. After discussion, VC Gerald made a **motion to grant the waiver to Mr. Fahrer to sit for two more journeyman exam attempts after completing 12 hours NEC-related continuing education after this approval**. Claeys **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

The next item on ES Young's report was, "Update on filling 3 open inspector positions". ES Young stated two inspectors have left employment, which need to be filled, and he has requested one additional inspector. ES Young stated he has conducted interviews for the 2 open positions, however, the starting wage has become an issue and is being reviewed for solutions.

The next item on the agenda was, "Update on City of Bettendorf electrical inspections". ES Young turned the meeting over to AAG Lundquist. AAG Lundquist received communication from the Bettendorf City attorney and forwarded to ES Young, a letter assuring the City is conducting inspections to the State adopted code and are not enforcing or allowing, the non-uniform amendments that appeared in their city code. Based upon AAG Lundquist's review of the City's meeting minutes, an ordinance has been approved with the amendments removed, and became effective at the end of October 2022; he believes the issue is resolved.

The next item on the agenda was, "Public Comment Period". Mike Anderson, Davenport City Inspector, stated he had an electrician who stated he was representing his contractor, purchased a permit using his employer's contractor license. The city became aware that this electrician was doing side jobs for himself and securing permits using the contractor license that was not his to use. Mr. Anderson is looking for enforcement guidance from the Board when this happens. ES Young stated that since the city is the jurisdiction having authority, it is city's duty to enforce the issue. ES Young also requested the City to

submit any enforcement documentation to the IEEB, so there is a paper trail in case another issue comes up regarding the individual in other jurisdictions.

The next item on the agenda was, "Vote on Board decision – Case #22-023". AAG Lundquist stated he was not privy to what the decision was. The Administrative Law Judge's decision was forwarded to the IEEB for review. After the Board's review of the drafted order, if there were no further changes or discussion that needed to take place, the Board can make a motion for the order to be carried out. CP Stoldorf asked for a motion, as there was no further discussion. VC Gerald made a **motion** to **adopt the draft decision and issue the order**. Maloney **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was, "Discussion on licensure/permitting issues – Investigative Subcommittee". ES Young stated there were no pending cases, so there was no need to go in to closed session.

Next on the agenda was, "Temporary service extension expiring – Art. 230.62 & 230.71B Dec. 31, 2022". ES Young stated that the exemption will expire on 12/31/2022 and asked for discussion. AAG Lundquist stated that since there was an expiration date in place, then the extension would expire and a motion was not necessary. The Board took no further action.

The next item on the agenda was, "Other Board Business". CP Stoldorf stated the next meeting will take place on February 16, 2023. AAG Lundquist reminded the Board that the hearing that was originally scheduled for December 9, 2023, has been re-scheduled for February 16, 2023, and there may also be a second hearing scheduled with the ALJ attending.

CP Stoldorf called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Maloney made a **motion** to **adjourn**. Black **seconded** the motion. 8 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindi Hayes, Secretary 2